

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3762

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 17219

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, WB, GW, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE VISIT OF NATO SYG AND AMBASSADORS TO
WEST BERLIN

REFS: (A) USNATO 5698; (B) STATE 248444

1. POSSIBLE BERLIN VISIT BY NATO AMBASSADORS AND SYG
DISCUSSED TRIPARTITELY ON OCTOBER 20. US REP REPORTED
INSTRUCTIONS (REF B). UK REP (HITCH) SAID HE WOULD
REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS ON SIMILAR LINES AND HOPED HE
COULD RECEIVE THEM WITHIN NEXT DAY OR SO. FRENCH
REP (BOISSIEU) AGAIN SAID ONLY SOLUTION WOULD BE TO
SEPARATE SYG FROM AMBASSADORS (WHO WOULD GO SOLELY
UNDER FRG INVITATION) AND INVITE LUNS FOR LATER, PERHAPS
DECEMBER, UNDER ALLIED SPONSORSHIP. RESPONDING TO US
QUESTION, BOISSIEU SAID THE FRENCH COMMANDANT WOULD NOT
PARTICIPATE IN ANY SUCH INVITATION, BUT ALSO INDICATED
THE FRENCH WOULD NOT OPPOSE UK OR US INVITATION AND
WOULD NOT ADVERTISE FACT OF FRENCH NON-PARTICIPATION IF
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CHAIRMAN COMMANDANT WERE TO ISSUE INVITATION TO SYG.

2. COMMENT: FRENCH REP TOOK PAINS TO POINT OUT THAT LUNS IS "NON-PERSON" TO FRENCH. BOISSIEU SAID LUNS HAD NEVER BEEN OFFICIALLY RECEIVED IN PARIS AND WHEN IN FRANCE IS ACCORDED NO HONORS OR SPECIAL TREATMENT.

3. ON ASSUMPTION THAT LONDON WILL COME AROUND AND ISSUE INSTRUCTIONS ON LINES OF US POSITION (REF B), WE AGREE THAT PERHAPS BEST WAY OUT IS ESSENTIALLY POSSIBILITY TWO CONTAINED REF B:

(A) ALLOW NATO AMBASSADORS TO PROCEED UNDER FRG INVITATION ON BASIS THAT INVITATION (WHETHER ACTUALLY OR NOT) WAS ISSUED BY KRAPF TO EACH AS INDIVIDUAL ; AND

(B) AFTER OBTAINING FRG AGREEMENT THAT SYG PROGRAM WOULD BE FOLDED INTO THAT WHICH BONN HAS ARRANGED FOR AMBASSADORS, UK AS CHAIRMAN COMMANDANT ISSUE INVITATION FOR LUNS TO VISIT BERLIN FOR SAME PERIOD AS AMBASSADORS (OCTOBER 26-28), THE INVITATION BEING AMBIGUOUS AS TO WHETHER UK ACTUALLY EXTENDING THE INVITATION ON BEHALF OF ALL THREE ALLIES.

4. WE CHECKED OUT THIS POSSIBLE RESOLUTION ON INFORMAL BASIS ON OCTOBER 21 WITH GERMANS AND BRITISH. FRG REP (LUECKING), AFTER CHECKING WITH STATE SECRETARY GEHLHOFF, SAID BONN CONTINUES TO FAVOR SYG VISIT AND FRG WOULD NOT BE CONCERNED IF LUNS PARTICIPATED IN TRIP NOT UNDER FRG BUT UNDER ALLIED INVITATION. BRITISH REP (HITCH) RESPONDED THAT IDEA WAS ATTRACTIVE AND HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY ASK LONDON TO AGREE. ON BASIS OF EARLIER TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH FCO HE WAS HOPEFUL LONDON WOULD GO ALONG, AUTHORIZING UK ACTUALLY TO MAKE THE INVITATION TO SYG AS SET OUT ABOVE IN PARA 3 (B). IN VIEW OF BOISSIEU STATEMENTS AT OCTOBER 20 TRIPARTITE, WE BELIEVE FRENCH WILL NOT OBJECT, BUT WILL SIMPLY STAND ASIDE.

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5. SHOULD FCO NOT APPROVE THIS IDEA, ONLY REMAINING ALTERNATIVES WOULD SEEM TO BE (A) FOR US COMMANDANT UNILATERALLY TO INVITE LUNS TO VISIT BERLIN OCTOBER 26-28, OR (B) FOR LUNS VISIT AT THIS TIME TO BE SHELVED. OUR GUESS IS THAT THE STRAIN ON ALLIED UNITY RESULTING FROM UNILATERAL US ACTION WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO AN AFFRONT TO LUNS, BUT DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO BE WEIGHING THAT ISSUE PENDING WORD ON FINAL BRITISH

POSITION. END COMMENT.

HILLENBRAND

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